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The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order

The situation in the Middle East

The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula

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Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 14 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Declaration by the heads of State of the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, signed in St. Petersburg on 7 June 2002 (see annex).

* A/57/50/Rev.1.

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On behalf of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations of the member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and as the representative of the country where the meeting took place, I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 30, 36, 37, 57, 67, 74, 76, 96, 103, 162 and 163 of the preliminary list, and also of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sergey Lavrov

Annex to the letter dated 14 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian and Chinese]

Declaration by the heads of State of the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization

Today we, the heads of State of the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, solemnly signed the Charter — the basic constituent document of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). This event marks the creation of the legal foundation for a new international association, the establishment of which we proclaimed in June 2001 in Shanghai.

We believe that the establishment of SCO is in keeping with the actual situation in the region and in the world, and also corresponds to the fundamental interests of the peoples of the six countries.

I

SCO is the successor of the "Shanghai Five" and was established on the basis of two agreements, which were innovative for the Asian continent, on confidence-building measures in the military sphere and on arms reductions.

SCO was established in order to strengthen mutual trust, friendship and good-neighbourliness between the member States, consolidate multilateral cooperation in the maintenance and strengthening of peace, security and stability in the region, jointly counteract new challenges and threats, encourage effective and mutually advantageous cooperation in various spheres, and promote economic growth and the social and cultural development of the member States.

SCO is based on the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and inviolability of borders, non-interference in internal affairs, non-use of force or threat of its use, and equal rights of all member States.

II

The rapid fulfilment of the procedures for the ratification of the SCO Charter and the Agreement on the regional counter-terrorist structure of SCO will contribute to the early launching of all the mechanisms designed to ensure the effective functioning of SCO.

The national coordinators of SCO are instructed, without waiting for the completion of all the domestic procedures for the entry into force of the SCO Charter, to proceed to prepare the range of contractual and normative texts regulating the procedure for the work of the SCO organs and other aspects of its activity.

Within the framework of SCO, active steps will be taken to implement the Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism, and to adopt appropriate texts on multilateral cooperation in curbing illicit narcotics and

arms trafficking and other types of criminal activity of a transnational character, and also illegal migration.

The establishment of a mechanism for the mutual exchange of information and for seeking joint positions on foreign policy issues of mutual interest, including issues arising within international organizations and forums such as the United Nations, is of current significance.

We note with satisfaction that along with the solution of organizational issues, the process of the development and institutionalization of cooperation among member States on specific topics in various fields is under way. We greatly value the outcome of the first meeting of heads of Government of the SCO countries on 14 September 2001 in Almaty and the meetings of Ministers for Foreign Affairs on 7 January 2002 in Beijing and 26 April 2002 in Moscow, and we support the development of contacts between defence, foreign policy and border departments, directors of law-enforcement bodies and special services within the framework of the "Bishkek Group", ministries of culture, emergency services and other governmental structures. We agreed to continue the gradual expansion of areas of cooperation between the SCO member States.

We believe that the development of economic partnership is a particularly important goal in the work of SCO. To this end, the negotiating process will be intensified on issues of the establishment of favourable conditions for trade and investment and the formulation of a long-term programme of multilateral trade and economic cooperation in accordance with the Memorandum between the Governments of the SCO member States of 14 September 2001. In the near future, it will be necessary to determine priority projects for practical cooperation in such spheres as building transport links and energy projects, water use, obtaining and transporting energy resources, and also other spheres of mutual interest.

III

The SCO member States are developing their relations within the framework of the evolving multipolar system of international relations and believe that the world order in the twenty-first century must be based on mechanisms for the collective solution of crucial problems, the supremacy of law and the gradual democratization of international relations.

The SCO member States will make efforts for the prevention and peaceful settlement of international conflicts associated with inter-ethnic, inter-faith, territorial, political and other differences, in strict accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law.

The SCO member States intend to increase cooperation with each other and with other countries in the search for answers to the challenges of the process of globalization, neutralization of its negative aspects and possible risks, and preservation of the variety of forms of economic, social and cultural development. Globalization and the national interests of States are not mutually exclusive, but mutually enhancing structural elements of the developing world order. The international community needs to work out security concepts of a new type, based on the principles of mutual trust, mutual advantage, equality and cooperation, contributing to a radical weakening of the factors undermining security, and the eradication of sources of new threats.

The SCO member States are resolved to intensify cooperation in combating terrorism, separatism and extremism, organized crime, illicit trafficking of narcotics and psychotropic substances, and also weapons. They regard these phenomena as transnational threats, which can be effectively tackled only through the organization of collective efforts by the international community.

The SCO member States firmly reject all acts, methods and practices of terrorism. The struggle against terrorism must be waged on the basis of the norms and principles of international law, must not single out any religion or individual countries or ethnic groups, and must be devoid of bias and double standards.

The SCO member States believe that it is necessary to create a global system to deal with new threats and challenges, with a central coordinating role for the United Nations and its Security Council, which would include appropriate multilateral mechanisms for cooperation covering early warning and prevention of emerging threats and a decisive and adequate response to such threats. For actions in this area, it is crucially important to formulate principles within the framework of the United Nations and also a clear, universally binding international legal basis for counter-terrorist activities which would not allow for dual interpretation and would not serve as a cover for interference in the affairs of other States and infringement of their sovereignty.

The Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism of 15 June 2001, and also the Agreement between the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization on the regional counter-terrorist structure, of 7 June 2002, represent an important contribution to these efforts and create clear legal parameters for the development at the regional level of practical cooperation in combating terrorism, separatism and extremism.

The SCO member States are convinced that an important part of global counter-terrorist efforts should be to deprive terrorism of its social foundation, including the eradication of poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, and discrimination on racial, ethnic and religious grounds.

The SCO member States support each other's efforts to eliminate the manifestations of terrorism, separatism and extremism, and also the steps taken by the international community to close off the channels of financing of terrorist activity, and will intensify their own efforts to prevent the preparation and financing of acts of terrorism in their own territories and deny refuge to terrorists.

The SCO member States confirm their intention to do everything possible to help strengthen the role of the United Nations in international affairs and further enhance the effectiveness and authority of the Security Council, which has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

The SCO member States believe that the observance of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime is one of the most important elements of ensuring peace and security both in Asia, and at the global level. The early accession of all countries to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and also the signing and ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty by States which have not yet done so, will help strengthen strategic stability at various levels.

The SCO member States support the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, including the initiative of the Republic of Uzbekistan to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia.

The SCO member States stress their respect for and support of the non-nuclear status of Mongolia.

The SCO member States welcome the conclusion of a new treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America concerning further major reductions in strategic offensive weapons, and regard this as a positive contribution to the reduction of nuclear weapons.

The SCO member States call for an early start to the multilateral negotiations on the preparation of a comprehensive agreement on the non-emplacement of weapons in outer space, and the non-use of force or threat of its use in relation to space targets.

The SCO member States, committing themselves to act in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, confirm the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights and also their obligations to observe human rights and fundamental freedoms, consider peace and development to be the basic guarantee of the promotion and protection of human rights, and oppose the application of double standards in human rights issues and interference in the internal affairs of other States under the pretext of protecting them.

IV

The SCO member States have the inalienable right to choose freely the forms and methods of ensuring their security, including the development of cooperation with other States. They will follow this policy in such a way as not to cause negative consequences for regional stability and security.

The SCO member States consider that the security of Central Asia is inseparably linked with the prospects of the peace process in Afghanistan. In this connection, they will intensify cooperation with each other in promoting the post-war political and economic recovery of this country.

The SCO member States welcome the establishment of a new, stable Afghanistan, free from terror, war, drugs and poverty, and declare their respect for the cultures and traditions of all peoples inhabiting that country. They are prepared to promote the process of the establishment of a broadly representative government in the interests of the entire Afghan people.

The SCO member States wish to see the Asian and Pacific region as a zone of peace, stability and joint prosperity, and are prepared to cooperate constructively with all States and regional associations in establishing a cooperative system of security throughout the region, within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, taking into account to an equal degree the interests and approaches of all participants. The strengthening of the mechanisms of multilateral cooperation which have already proved their worth, such as the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum and others, will contribute to the establishment of such a system.

The SCO member States believe that the Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legitimate Government representing all of China, and that Taiwan is an inseparable part of the territory of China.

The SCO member States support the efforts of the two Korean States to develop and expand dialogue and cooperation in the spirit of the agreements of the inter-Korean summit meeting in June 2000 and believe that it is useful to develop dialogue and constructive cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the United States of America and other countries of the West in order to achieve lasting peace and stability on the Korean peninsula.

The SCO member States call upon India and Pakistan to resume political dialogue in order to banish tension and develop cooperation between the two countries.

The SCO member States express deep concern about the protracted crisis in the Middle East, which is having an adverse effect on regional and international security and stability. The SCO member States call upon Israel and Palestine to proceed immediately to implement the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, respond positively to the peace-keeping efforts of the international community, and resume the search for peaceful ways of resolving the dispute.

The SCO member States are prepared to continue political and diplomatic efforts together with the international community in order to ensure the full implementation of all the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council on the Iraq question.

The SCO member States commend the initiative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to convene the Conference on cooperation and confidence-building measures in Asia and believe that this forum, along with the existing structures and mechanisms in Asia, will play an important role in raising the level of mutual trust and the development of multilateral cooperation among the Asian countries.

V

We confirm that SCO is not a bloc or a closed alliance, is not directed against individual countries or groups of States, and is open to broad cooperation with other States and international associations in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law, on the basis of mutual interests and commonality of approaches to resolving regional and worldwide problems.

(*Signed*) **Jiang** Zemin
President of the People's Republic of China

(*Signed*) N. A. **Nazarbaev**
President of the Republic of Kazakhstan

(*Signed*) A. A. **Akayev**
President of the Kyrgyz Republic

(*Signed*) V. V. **Putin**
President of the Russian Federation

(*Signed*) E. S. **Rakhmonov**
President of the Republic of Tajikistan

(*Signed*) I. A. **Karimov**
President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

St. Petersburg, 7 June 2002